

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT New Yugoslav Policy on Collective Farms

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1. The Communist Party in Yugoslavia has been forced to adopt a new policy with respect to the Seljacka Radna Zadruga (SRZ) (collective farms). The old policy of compelling farmers to join the SRZ cannot be continued.
2. Because of pressure applied by the Government, many farmers in the past joined the SRZ. Those who were thus constrained did their work poorly and only superficially, which was not the case with volunteer farmers.
3. Under the new Yugoslav policy, which also will be practiced in Zone B, the farmers will be allowed complete independence in the cultivation of their land. All those who were compelled to join the SRZ will be allowed to leave, keeping their parcels of land. These farmers will enjoy the same rights as those who are members of the SRZ.
4. The regime will then make special grants to those who voluntarily joined or choose to remain in the SRZ. They will be given financial subsidies, farm machinery, livestock, and other items. At a later date it is believed that the private farmers, upon observing the machinery and model farms of the others, will request membership in the SRZ.
5. There is a famine in Yugoslavia at present of catastrophic dimensions which was caused, in part, by the compulsory membership of farmers in the SRZ.

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